

dilation, but they have drifted as steadily back upon its hands as standard silver dollars, in spite of the efforts of Treasurer Jordan, drifted back into the Treasury of the United States in 1885 and 1886. ^f People have preferred to take notes resting upon the security of both the gold and silver in the bank reserves. The bank, in the language of an eminent Scotch financier, has had to '*' relieve the public of ^50,000,000 of silver, which was coined, and was in excess of the silver required for the purposes of the people."¹ The government proposed the removal of the limit on circulation in 1884 and while this was refused, the maximum was carried up by the law of January 30, 1884, from 3,200,000,000 francs to 3,500,000,000 francs. The actual circulation at this time was 3,162,000,000 francs, but it continued to in response to the demand of the public for notes. The excess of notes in circulation over gold and silver was 1,2x0,-ooo francs in 1884 and was reduced in 1893 to 695,000,000-francs, while the circulation had climbed upwards on January 12, 1893, to 3,473,000,000 francs. Another extension of the legal limit was demanded for the accommodation of commerce and it was carried upward by the law of January 25, 1893, to 4,000,000,000 francs. It was found in the extension of the charter in 1897 to advance the limit to 5,000,000,000 francs and again by a law of February 9, 1906, to 5,800,000,000 francs.⁹

The Bank of Trance faced a serious problem, at the
of the nineteenth century in the struggle over
the

of
its charter. The renewal was proposed In
1891, *but* the
opposition was so strong in the Chambers
that the bill for
the purpose was withdrawn by the ministry for
of
The bank then, pursued a Fabian policy»
awaiting the
approach of the expiration of the charter at the
of 1897,
in the apparent belief that opposition would
be

ia

¹Mr. Charles Gairdner, manager of the Union Bank
of Scotland,

before the Indian Currency Committee. Sen.

Misc. Doc. a& 5«d

Cong., 1st Sess., 150.

² *Bulletin de Statistique*, February, 1906, I4X« 119,